

Council of Europe

Overview of Co-operation Activities in Kosovo*

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* All reference to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Anti-Corruption
AML/CFT	Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism
CEC	Central Electoral Commission
CEPEJ	European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice
CoE	Council of Europe
CPT	Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
C-PROC	Cybercrime Programme Office of the CoE
DGI	Directorate General for Human Rights and the Rule of Law
DGII	Directorate General of Democracy
DPA	Directorate of Political Affairs
DPP	Directorate of Policy Planning
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
ECRML	European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages
ECSR	European Committee of Social Rights
ESC	European Social Charter
EU	European Union
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FCNM	Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
GRECO	Group of States against Corruption
GRETA	Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
HELP	European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals
Horizontal Facility	EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey
HRU	Human Rights Unit of various ministries
ICT	Information and communication technologies
JP	EU / CoE Joint Programme
JUFREX	EU/CoE JP Reinforcing Judicial Expertise on Freedom of Expression and the Media
KAPS	Kosovo Academy for Public Safety
KCA	Kosovo Chamber of Advocates
KJC	Kosovo Judicial Council
KJI	Kosovo Judicial Institute
KPC	Kosovo Prosecutorial Council
MAE	Major Administrative Entity of the CoE
MEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
MINRIGHTS	EU/CoE JP Promoting Human Rights and Minority Protection in South East Europe
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MONEYVAL	Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
ODIHR	Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
OGG	Office of Good Governance within the Prime Minister's Office
OIK	Ombudsman Institution in Kosovo
PACE	Parliamentary Assembly of the CoE
PECK	EU/CoE JP Project against Economic Crime in Kosovo*
PIK	Police Inspectorate of Kosovo
RoL	RULE OF LAW
ROMACTED	PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ROMA EMPOWERMENT AT LOCAL LEVEL
SEE	South East Europe
UNMIK	United Nations Mission in Kosovo

INTRODUCTION

This document is an update of the document ODGPROG/Inf(2014)10 rev, of which the Ministers' Deputies took note at their 1221st meeting (4 March 2015).

It gives a snapshot of the proposed projects that are under consideration and of the projects currently implemented by the Council of Europe (CoE) in Kosovo*.

The CoE co-operation with Kosovo* is based on the principle that the CoE and its Secretariat operate in conformity with the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1244 (1999) and on the status-neutral approach of our Organisation. In this context, the CoE maintains contacts with United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). On 12 December 2012, the Committee of Ministers took note of the Secretary General's decision regarding the direct interaction of CoE officials involved in CoE activities in Kosovo* with officials from relevant and competent authorities in Kosovo* based on the principle of "functional capacity". This principle is taken into account to ensure the Organisation's ability to work effectively in Kosovo* in order to promote the adoption and implementation of CoE standards.

All proposed and current projects seek to be in alignment with the needs and strategic priorities of the local authorities, are relevant to the adherence with CoE standards, and represent areas of exclusivity or where the contribution of the CoE adds value. Co-ordination with other activities and actors *in situ* is a guiding principle for all CoE interventions, in particular with the European Union (EU) Office, EULEX, as well as the OSCE Mission in Kosovo and the competent UN agencies.

On 2 December 2016, the Working Group on Co-operation between the CoE and Kosovo* held its fourth meeting in Strasbourg. The Working Group exchanged on the state of co-operation as well as proposals for future activities, with a view to preparing the present document.

All projects proposed have been developed on the basis of needs identified in the course of those CoE monitoring and monitoring-like activities carried out in Kosovo* under specific arrangements, and as identified in the course of the implementation of programmatic activities. These areas are determined as areas for strategic and value-added engagement by the CoE. The intervention-logic employed in Kosovo* is based on a programmatic approach whereby all co-operation activities are harmonised and mutually reinforcing, which is ensured during implementation. This approach also caters for progressive programming whereby new interventions build on progress made or shortcomings identified in the course of on-going or past initiatives.

The evolution of the situation on the ground may require an update of this document. Therefore, this document should not be considered as limiting the CoE engagement in other relevant and associated fields, in accordance with developing needs of the beneficiaries.

Projects in the document are to be funded from multiple sources including the CoE's Ordinary Budget, the EU, and voluntary contributions from other international organisations and from donor countries. This document also reflects the relevant projects included in the EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey, signed on 23 May 2016, implementing the Statement of Intent¹ for the co-operation between the CoE and the European Commission in the EU Enlargement Region and the Eastern Partnership and Southern Mediterranean countries (EU Neighbourhood Region).

¹ [Statement of Intent](#)

I. PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS, ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND DIVERSITY

PROPOSED PROJECTS

Activity	1.1. STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS STRUCTURES IN PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
Purpose	<p>The anti-discrimination legislation established in Kosovo* back in 2004 has undergone a revision on the basis of the recommendations made in the framework of the 2012-2014 EU-CoE Joint Programme (JP) <i>“Enhancing Human Rights Protection in Kosovo*”</i>. The adoption of the “human rights laws package” (Law on Ombudsman, Law on Gender Equality and Law on Protection against Discrimination) in June 2015 has marked a significant step in the establishment of a sound legislative framework in this area.</p> <p>The overall objective of the <i>STRENGTHENING KOSOVO* HUMAN RIGHTS STRUCTURES IN PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION</i> project will be to provide support to the authorities in the area of combating discrimination, building upon the results and assessments of the previous project (2012-2014) and increasing the capacity of the human rights structures to apply European human rights standards. In addition to human rights institutions, in particular the Ombudsman Institution in Kosovo (OIK), specific attention will be paid to the Human Rights Units (HRUs) established in 2005 in each ministry, entrusted with ensuring the compliance of the authorities’ acts and policies with human rights standards, as well as with co-operating with human rights institutions, including the OIK.</p> <p>This specific objectives of the project will aim to streamline the work of non-judicial human rights mechanisms in the area of protection against discrimination, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-assessment of the existing system of HRUs and their mandate in the field of anti-discrimination; • Assessment of the relevant administrative and legislative framework in force; • Providing expert recommendations to the authorities at central and municipal level on streamlining of human rights structures and their complementarity to the OIK’s mandate; • Tailored human rights training, including distance learning with the use of the CoE HELP Programme, for staff members of human rights structures. <p><i>This project is complementary to Human Rights in Action (1.4), Support to the Implementation of European Human Rights Standards and Reform of the Ombudsman Institution (1.6), Human Rights Academy for Supreme and High Court Judges – HELP Academy (2.1), and Improving the Protection of European Human Rights Standards by the Constitutional Court (2.3).</i></p>
Main partners	Central and municipal institutions, human rights structures, HRUs, OIK
Duration	36 months
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 1 500 000
Relevant MAE	Directorate General for Human Rights and the Rule of Law (DGI)

Activity	1.2. PROMOTING GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ROMA EMPOWERMENT AT LOCAL LEVEL – ROMACTED
Purpose	<p>In recent years, there has been a strong development of policy frameworks for the integration of Roma throughout South East Europe (SEE). At the same time, awareness has been raised about the importance of policy measures at local level for achieving real improvement in the social inclusion of Roma in the key areas such as education, housing, employment, health and civil documentation. The overall objective of the regional project ROMACTED is to build sustained policy engagement of authorities, to enhance democratic participation and empowerment of selected local Roma communities, to design and implement projects and to access local and external funds. The specific objectives of the project will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • empower the Roma community on the individual and community level; • improve and expand local authorities' commitment, capacities, knowledge and skills in working for Roma inclusion, putting in practice the concepts of good governance; • assist local authorities to integrate a Roma-specific dimension/ measures into the mainstream local policies, budgets and public service delivery in their agenda.
Main partners	Local public administrations, including elected representatives and relevant officials, Roma communities from the selected municipalities
Duration	36 months
Project area:	Kosovo*, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 3 750 000, approx. 500 000 each
Relevant MAE	Support Team to the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Roma issues, Directorate General of Democracy (DG-II)

Activity	1.3. PROMOTING CONFIDENCE AND COHESION AMONGST COMMUNITIES
Purpose	<p>The overall objective of the project is to build confidence among various ethnic populations. This will be done via specific target groups, for example NGOs, youth, media, which have a multiplying role in society. The project has a two-pronged objective: to cultivate a dialogue between the identified target groups (eg. NGOs, journalists and young people) from ethnic communities by raising awareness of existing shared values among peers groups, and to enhance knowledge and respect for European human rights standards in the region. The project activities include small scale bi-communal initiatives with a view to provide the population with better balanced services and information and to improve the capacity of the target groups to address sensitive issues in a balanced way.</p>
Main partners	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport, civil society
Duration	36 months
Funding	Funding secured: € 80,000 funded by the Ordinary Budget of the Council of Europe Estimated funding required: € 250 000
Relevant MAE	Directorate of Political Affairs (DPA)

Activity	1.4. HUMAN RIGHTS IN ACTION
Purpose	<p>The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) is an integral part of Kosovo* legal system and directly applicable, just as the Framework Convention on National Minorities (FCNM). In this context, the CoE has played an important role by supporting the building of capacity of human rights institutions, legal professionals and civil society to apply European human rights standards. This project also builds on the adoption of the “human rights laws package” (Law on Ombudsman, Law on Gender Equality and Law on Protection against Discrimination) in June 2015, which entrust the OIK with the function of National Preventive Mechanism (NPM).</p> <p>The overall objective of this project will be to enhance human rights protection in Kosovo* through strengthening the capacities of its legal community and non-judicial mechanisms to apply human rights standards in specific areas.</p> <p>The project will ensure that both the OIK and legal professionals receive continued targeted support as regards the implementation of the ECHR and other CoE standards, and in particular to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthen the OIK’s capacity to act as a National Preventive Mechanism; • increase the capacity of legal professionals to apply human rights standards in actions aimed at prevention of radicalisation in prisons; • ensure the larger presence of European human rights standards in the curricula and extracurricular activities of law faculties of Kosovo*. <p><i>This project is complementary to Strengthening Human Rights Structures in Protection Against Discrimination (1.1), Support to the Implementation of European Human Rights Standards and Reform of the Ombudsman Institution (1.6), and Human Rights Academy for Supreme and High Court Judges – HELP Academy (2.1).</i></p>
Main partners	Ministry of Justice (MoJ), OIK, legal professionals, KJI and KPC
Duration	24 months
Funding	Funding secured: € 250 000, funded by the Ordinary Budget of the Council of Europe. Estimated funding required: € 650 000
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	1.5. PROMOTING THE RESPECT OF SOCIAL RIGHTS IN LINE WITH THE STANDARDS OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER
Purpose	<p>The project aims to introduce the standards of the European Social Charter (ESC) in Kosovo*, and strengthen the institutional capacities to guarantee social rights in line with these standards.</p> <p>A preliminary activity will aim at introducing the standards of the ESC to the authorities and civil society. It will serve to raise awareness on relevance and importance of focussing on and respecting social and economic rights through law, policy and practice and will pave the way for further co-operation between the CoE and the relevant authorities in this field.</p> <p>The specific objectives of the project will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote CoE standards in the field of social rights; • raise awareness among civil society to social and economic rights; • contribute to better alignment of legislation and policies with the standards of the ESC and the decisions and conclusions of the European Committee of Social Rights (ECSR).

Main partners	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Office of Good Governance within the Office of the Prime Minister (OGG), civil society
Duration	24 months
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 750 000
Relevant MAE	DGI

ON-GOING PROJECTS

Activity	1.6. SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS AND REFORM OF THE OMBUDSMAN INSTITUTION
Purpose	<p>The project is the first one to be implemented in Kosovo* which offers a comprehensive multi-aspect support to legal professionals and non-judicial actors in the area of application of the European Convention on Human Rights and application of European human rights standards. It also continues to provide support to the OIK, which after the adoption in 2015 of the “Human Rights Law package” obtained new functions but still lacked capacity to deal with its core tasks, such as working with human rights violations victims, processing complaints, litigating in courts and executing the OIK’s national preventive mechanism (NPM) mandate.</p> <p>As a follow-up to the EU/CoE JP <i>Enhancing human rights protection in Kosovo*</i> (2012-2014), the overall objective of this project is to enhance the capacity of legal professionals to apply the ECHR and to strengthen judicial and non-judicial mechanisms of human rights protection. The project objectives aim to provide targeted support in three areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to support the institutional set-up and the legislative framework of non-judicial human rights institutions, notably as regards the OIK; • to enhance transparency and efficiency of the judiciary; • to build the capacity of legal professionals as regards the application of the ECHR based on the CoE’s HELP Programme tools and training methodology. <p><i>This project is complementary to Strengthening Human Rights Structures in Protection against Discrimination (1.1), Human Rights in Action (1.4), Human Rights Academy for Supreme and High Court Judges – HELP Academy (2.1), and Improving the Protection of European Human Rights Standards by the Constitutional Court (2.3).</i></p>
Main partners	MoJ, OIK, Constitutional Court, KJC, KPC, KJI, Kosovo Chamber of Advocates (KCA), civil society
Duration	15/10/2014 - 28/02/2017
Funding	€ 1 200 000, funded by Norway (€ 1 100 000) and Switzerland (€ 100 000)
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	1.7. REINFORCING THE FIGHT AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
Purpose	<p>The CoE Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) sets the path for creating a legal framework to protect women against all forms of violence, and prevent, prosecute and eliminate violence against women and domestic violence, including through preventive measures, protection and support for victims, and the effective prosecution of perpetrators.</p> <p>The overall objective of the project is to strengthen institutional capacities to prevent and counter violence against women and domestic violence in line with the standards of the Istanbul Convention.</p>

	As a first step, public awareness will be raised to improve the prevention of violence against women, the protection of victims and the prosecution of perpetrators. The project's specific objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to promote CoE standards to improve the prevention of violence, the protection of victims, and the prosecution of perpetrators; to map existing services for women victims of all forms of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention.
Main partners	Ministry of Internal Affairs, MoJ, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, civil society
Duration	1/10/2016 – 30/06/2017
Funding	€ 50 000, funded by Turkey
Relevant MAE	DGII

Activity	1.8. PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND MINORITY PROTECTION IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE – PHASE II (MINRIGHTS)
Purpose	<p>The regional EU/CoE JP "MINRIGHTS" aims to improve access to rights for minorities at various levels of government, based upon CoE standards in this field, in particular the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (FCNM).</p> <p>The project is designed to break down barriers for minorities, and builds on similarities of experiences and challenges felt at the local level in the region. The project assesses in detail what practices are being developed at the local level to promote access to rights under the FCNM. The identification and dissemination of good practices of FCNM implementation at a municipal level has facilitated the design and adoption of relevant policy (or legislative) frameworks for minority protection that are applicable across the region.</p> <p>Regionally, the project has worked specifically to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide support to the different beneficiaries on legislative and policy changes at the central government level; support local governments to enhance policies and capacity for the implementation of minority rights in selected municipalities; identify and share good practices among the participating municipalities and to develop adaptable models for use in other municipalities in the region. <p>The project has focused on four municipalities in Kosovo* (Kamenicë/Kamenica, Vushtrri/Vučitrn, Rahovec/Orahovac and Leposavić/Leposaviq). Work in these municipalities targeted specific issues of minority protection considered most relevant in the local context covering themes of culture, effective participation and non-discrimination. Building on the experiences from implementation of a small grant scheme, representatives of the local authorities also provided recommendations to the central authorities on how to improve the situation of minority rights.</p>
Main partners	OGG, Ministry of Local Government Administration, municipalities
Duration	30/11/2011 – 28/12/2016
Project area	Kosovo*, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Funding	EU/CoE Joint Programme € 3 600 000 total envelope, approx. € 500 000 each
Relevant MAE	DGII

II. ENSURING JUSTICE

PROPOSED PROJECTS

Activity	2.1. HUMAN RIGHTS ACADEMY FOR SUPREME AND HIGH COURT JUDGES - HELP ACADEMY
Purpose	<p>The European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) supports the implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), in accordance with the Committee of Ministers Recommendation (2004) 4, the 2010 Interlaken Declaration, the 2012 Brighton Declaration and the 2015 Brussels declaration. This is done by enhancing the capacity of judges, lawyers and prosecutors to apply the ECHR in their daily work. Indeed, legal professionals, who are at the forefront of the protection of human rights, including those of victims, must benefit from high-quality training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This regional project will work to enhance the effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and its implementation in SEE, through the achievement of the following specific objectives: Structured exchange and systematic dialogue among Supreme Court Judges on ECHR relevant topics will be facilitated, with participation of judges of the ECtHR and the Court of Justice of the European Union, to improve the protection of human rights; • Supreme Court judges will gain new insights on how to address ECHR violations in their judgments through peer learning. <p><i>This project is complementary to Strengthening Human Rights Structures in Protection against Discrimination (1.1), Human Rights in Action (1.4), Support to the Implementation of European Human Rights Standards and Reform of the Ombudsman Institution (1.6) and Improving the Protection of European Human Rights Standards by the Constitutional Court (2.3)</i></p>
Main partners	Supreme Courts
Duration	36 months
Project area	Kosovo*, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 1 200 000 total approx. € 200 000 each
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	2.2. ENHANCING HUMAN RIGHTS POLICING
Purpose	<p>Several monitoring bodies and reports identified shortcomings on the side of the police authorities when it comes to the deprivation of liberty and treatment of persons in police custody, and suggest that stronger action in this field is required in Kosovo*. As mentioned in the report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) published on 8 September 2016², the CPT delegation received a significant number of allegations of physical ill-treatment by police officers from detained persons (including juveniles). The visits of the OIK have revealed that in police departments there are still some cases involving torture and inhuman treatment of persons under police custody. When it comes to the police inspection body, the Police Inspectorate of Kosovo (PIK) has investigated cases of different types and nature and has recognised the need to further address issues related to police ill-treatment and to combat impunity.</p> <p>This overall objective of this project will be to support criminal justice reform and combat ill-treatment and impunity in police through improving the legal and institutional framework ensuring the protection of human rights by police, strengthening the capacity of police to apply European human rights standards in their daily work and further enhancing the system of independent and effective investigation of cases of alleged ill-treatment.</p>

² CPT/Inf (2016) 23

	<p>This project will aim at the following specific objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strengthen the in-service training programme for police officers on preventing and combating ill-treatment; • improve the police related legislation and regulatory framework for prevention of ill-treatment; • improve the working methodology and ensure sustainable training of the PIK. <p><i>This project is complementary to the on-going project Enhancing the Protection of Human Rights of Prisoners (2.5).</i></p>
Main partners	PIK, KAPS, Police
Duration	24 months
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 900 000
Relevant MAE	DGI

ONGOING PROJECTS

Activity	2.3. IMPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT
Purpose	<p>The project aims to improve the capacity of the Constitutional Court in ensuring the protection of individual human rights and fundamental freedoms through the effective application of European human rights standards to individual complaints.</p> <p>Article 113.7 of the Kosovo* Constitution authorises individuals to refer violations by public authorities of their individual rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution to the Constitutional Court. Article 22.2 specifies that human rights and fundamental freedoms guaranteed by ECHR are directly applicable in Kosovo*. Furthermore, the Constitution provides, in Article 53, that “human rights and fundamental freedoms guaranteed by this Constitution shall be interpreted consistently with the court decisions of the European Court of Human Rights.” The Constitutional Court judges are supported, <i>inter alia</i>, by a team of thirteen legal advisors, who are permanent employees of this Court. These legal advisors conduct legal research and prepare the decisions, resolutions and draft judgments of the Court on behalf of the judges.</p> <p>The project provides a work placement in the Registry of the ECtHR for a period of five months each, to support the professional development of the legal advisors within the Constitutional Court. In addition, it supports the professional exchange between the Constitutional Court of Kosovo* and the Venice Commission.</p> <p><i>This project is complementary to Strengthening Human Rights Structures in Protection against Discrimination (1.1)., Human Rights in Action (1.4), Support to the Implementation of European Human Rights Standards and Reform of the Ombudsman Institution (1.6) and Human Rights Academy for Supreme and High Court Judges – HELP Academy (2.1).</i></p>
Main partners	Constitutional Court
Duration	01/01/2014 – 31/12/2016
Funding	€ 267 072, funded by Switzerland
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	2.4. STRENGTHENING THE QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE
Purpose	<p>This Action aims to improve the day-to-day functioning and quality of the justice system, by making available to the authorities the methodology and tools of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ). The application of this methodology and tools leads to an increased capacity of the responsible authorities to assess the efficiency of the Kosovo* judicial system, ensuring that justice is delivered within a reasonable time and that it meets good quality standards.</p> <p>This Action will address the courts, and also strengthen the knowledge of the authorities on the tools and methodology of the CEPEJ, as requested by the KJCC.</p> <p>The first specific objective is to enhance the efficiency of the justice system in accordance with CEPEJ standards and tools on judicial statistics and time management with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An in-depth and global assessment of the judicial system with recommendations for improvements; • Support to the capacity of the KJC and of courts to improve judicial time management, the collection and management of statistical data and enhance their efficiency in accordance with CEPEJ methodology and tools, in particular the SATURN Guidelines. <p>The second specific objective is to enhance the quality of the justice system, in accordance with CEPEJ quality standards and tools with Court Coaching Programmes in close cooperation with the KJC in individual courts in view of building the capacity of courts to deliver a better justice service in accordance with CEPEJ quality tools such as the Checklist on the quality of justice and the Handbook on conducting users' satisfaction surveys.</p>
Main partners	Courts, MOJ, KJC, KPC, KJI
Duration	01/07/2016 – 30/06/2018
Funding	€ 900 000, funded by the EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	2.5. ENHANCING THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF PRISONERS
Purpose	<p>Based on the recent report of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) on Kosovo*, concrete recommendations to address shortcomings in the prison system have been spelled out. The CPT found that there is a serious lack of in-service training for the correctional and health care staff, as well as absence of social rehabilitation for the prisoners. Other reports also noted that the inspections of KCS facilities by the Internal Inspectorate of the Ministry of Justice are not systematically addressed. The project focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing professionalism of prison staff through strengthening the provision of in-service training and improving prison staff recruitment policies; • improving the treatment of prisoners through improving prisoners' risks and needs assessment tools and developing and piloting targeted rehabilitation programmes; • strengthening safeguards against ill-treatment for a better protection of the rights of the prisoners; • establishing efficient internal prison inspection; • improving provision of mental health care, health care and application of medical ethics in prisons. <p><i>This project is complementary to the proposed project ENHANCING HUMAN RIGHTS POLICING (2.2).</i></p>

Main partners	MoJ's Correctional and Prisons, Ministry of Health, OIK/ NPM, Forensic Psychiatry Institute, civil society
Duration	01/10/2016 – 31/08/2018
Funding	€ 620 000, funded by the EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey
Relevant MAE	DGI

III. FIGHTING CORRUPTION, ECONOMIC CRIME AND ORGANISED CRIME

PROPOSED PROJECTS

Activity	3.1. HUMAN TRAFFICKING
Purpose	<p>This project is based on the first report of the Council of Europe's expert body on trafficking in human beings (GRETA) published in April 2016. This report evaluated anti-trafficking legislation, policy and practice of Kosovo³, and was financed by Norway through the CoE 2015-2016 project <i>Re-enforcing The Fight Against Trafficking in Human Beings in Kosovo* through the Application of GRETA Methodology and Tools</i>. Based on the findings of this report, actions will be designed in priority areas, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prevention of human trafficking; • identification and assistance to victims of trafficking for the purpose of labour exploitation; • effective access of the victims to compensation; • safe return and reintegration of the victims of trafficking.
Main partners	Office of the Anti-trafficking Co-ordinator, Ministry of Internal Affairs, MoJ, relevant institutional stakeholders
Duration	24 months
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 620 000
Relevant MAE	DGII

ONGOING PROJECTS

Activity	3.2. PROJECT AGAINST ECONOMIC CRIME IN KOSOVO* - PECK II
Purpose	<p>Anti-corruption (AC) and Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) systems remain weak. Furthermore, in the field of money laundering and terrorism financing, there is a need for continuous legislative and organisational reforms to bring Kosovo* in line with European and international standards.</p> <p>The joint <i>EU/CoE Project against Economic Crime in Kosovo* (PECK I)</i>, implemented during 2012-2015, introduced the first-of-its-kind structured assessments of the AC and AML/CFT frameworks and measures vis-à-vis relevant international and European standards through assessment tools modelled on GRECO and FATF/MONEYVAL methodologies and specifically tailored to Kosovo*. PECK II provides assistance in implementing specific recommendations including from the previous assessment cycles conducted within PECK I through targeted technical assistance while continuing to support relevant institutions in participating during the forthcoming comprehensive assessment process.</p> <p>The project contributes to the democracy and the RoL through the prevention and control of corruption; money laundering; and the financing of terrorism. In view of this PECK II:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • builds on the results and lessons learned from PECK I and aims to support reforms tailored to prevent and combat economic crime; • assists authorities with the implementation of specific recommendations issued within PECK I;

³ GRETA(2015)37

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> carries out a second phased assessment of AC and AML/CFT frameworks vis-à-vis evolving international and European standards. <p><i>This project is complementary to the project iPROCEEDS (3.3).</i></p>
Main partners	Anti-corruption Agency, Financial Intelligence Unit, OGG, State Prosecutor and Special Prosecutor's Office, KJC, KPC, Police, PIK, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Agency for Managing Seized and Confiscated Assets, Ministry of Finance, Central Bank, MoJ, Customs, Tax Administration, Office of the Auditor General, Procurement Review Body, Public Procurement Regulatory Commission, Ministry of Public Administration, Parliament, Central Electoral Commission (CEC), private sector, civil society.
Duration	01/01/2016 - 31/12/2018
Funding	EU-CoE Joint Programme € 2 225 000
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	3.3. PROJECT ON TARGETING CRIME PROCEEDS ON THE INTERNET IN SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE AND TURKEY – IPROCEEDS
Purpose	<p>Worldwide, most cybercrime reported and investigated by criminal justice authorities is related to different types of fraud and other offences aimed at obtaining illegal economic benefits. Vast amounts of crime proceeds are thus generated – and often laundered – on the Internet and through the use of information and communication technologies (ICT). ICT are exploited for a wide range of serious and organised crime activity with a “dynamic relationship between online and off-line organised crime”. This is also the case for the Western Balkans and Turkey.</p> <p>Major standards regarding cybercrime and crime proceeds include the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime (CETS No. 185) and the Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198) of the CoE. The objective of this regional Joint Programme between the CoE and the EU is to strengthen the capacity of the relevant and competent authorities to search, seize and confiscate cybercrime proceeds and prevent money laundering on the internet.</p> <p>This is to be achieved through seven expected results related to public reporting systems; legislation; inter-agency co-operation for cybercrime and financial investigations; risk-management and due diligence guidelines for financial sector entities; public/private information sharing; judicial training and international co-operation.</p> <p><i>This project is complementary to the project PECK II (3.2).</i></p>
Main partners	MoJ, Ministry of Economic Development, Police (Department Against Organised Crime), Prosecutor's Office, KJI, Ministry of Interior (Department Against Organised Crime), Prosecutor's Office Financial Intelligence Unit.
Duration	15/12/2015 - 14/06/2019
Project area	Kosovo*, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and Turkey
Funding	EU-CoE Joint Programme € 5 560 000 total envelope, approx. € 800 000 each
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	3.4. STRENGTHEN INTEGRITY AND COMBAT CORRUPTION IN HIGHER EDUCATION
Purpose	<p>The CoE has undertaken the project <i>Strengthen Integrity and Combat Corruption in Higher Education</i> in order to support the education reform process set out in the Kosovo* Education Strategic Plan 2011-2016 and bring it in line with "Helsinki agenda for quality education in Europe" and other key instruments of the CoE. Measures are proposed at the university level to raise awareness of corruption and to identify possible measures if and when corruption occurs.</p> <p>The CoE builds upon its experience in the region, through the 2009-2012 <i>Project against Corruption in Albania (PACA)</i> with a strong component on prevention of corruption in the education sector by improving transparency, accountability and social participation in the education system. The CoE has also a valuable experience in the field of Qualification Standards, with the implementation e.g. of EU/CoE JP Strategic Development of Higher Education and Qualification Standards (2013-2015).</p> <p>The focus of this proposed project is to develop ethical standards, combat corruption and promote best practices of quality and integrity in education. This is reached by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing awareness of staff, professors and students on ethics standards and corruption; • developing a guidebook on ethical standards, combatting corruption and promoting best practices in ethics and integrity in education for higher education institutions, and assisting Kosovo* in participating in a related CoE pan-European platform with a view to building relevant technical capacities. <p>This project is complementary to the projects <i>FOSTERING RAPPROCHEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY – FRED (5.1)</i> and <i>Fostering a Democratic School Culture and Diversity in Schools (5.2)</i>.</p>
Main partners	MEST, Public Universities, Anti-Corruption Agency, Accreditation Agency, education policy and research institutes, teacher training organisations, experts and academics
Duration	1/10/2016 – 30/11/2018
Funding	€ 350 000, funded by the EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey
Relevant MAE	DGII

IV. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

PROPOSED PROJECTS

Activity	4.1. STRENGTHENING OF INTERNET GOVERNANCE ETHICS AS A TOOL FOR INCREASING THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
Purpose	<p>The overall objective of the proposed project is to improve protection of human rights on the Internet, in particular freedom of privacy and expression in line with Articles 8 and 10 of the ECHR.</p> <p>The project should also improve the overall capacity of public officials and private sector to understand and implement Internet governance from a human rights' perspective.</p> <p>It should also strengthen civil society's and the media's watchdog role on the Internet and human rights, and strengthen the capacity of vulnerable groups, particularly children and youth, to exercise their human rights relating to the Internet.</p>

	<i>This project is complementary to the projects Reinforcing Judicial Expertise on Freedom of Expression and the Media in SEE - JUFREX (4.3) and Supporting Freedom of Expression through Professional and Ethical Media (4.2).</i>
Main partners	Institute for Public Administration, KJI, OGG, MEST, Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority, internet service providers, the Post and Telecommunications, civil society
Duration	18 months
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 1 000 000
Relevant MAE	DGI

Activity	4.2. SUPPORTING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION THROUGH PROFESSIONAL AND ETHICAL MEDIA
Purpose	<p>The regional project <i>Promoting freedom of expression and information and freedom of the media in South-Eastern Europe</i>, recently completed in Kosovo*, has underlined the importance of achieving the letter and spirit of Article 10 of the ECHR. To ensure the continuity in this area, the proposed project will strive to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhance the professional and technical skills of journalists, media professionals and the various regulatory and self-regulatory bodies concerned with the media landscape in Kosovo* based on CoE standards; • improve the overall capacity of relevant public officials to understand and implement these standards, with due regard for social cohesion, reconciliation and non-discrimination. <p><i>This project is complementary to the project Strengthening of Internet Governance Ethics as a Tool for Increasing the Protection of Human Rights (4.1) Reinforcing Judicial Expertise on Freedom of Expression and the Media in SEE – JUFREX (4.3).</i></p>
Main partners	Independent Media Commission, Journalist associations, KJI, Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority, Kosovo* Press Council, civil society
Duration	18 months
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 200 000
Relevant MAE	DGI

ONGOING PROJECTS

Activity	4.3 REINFORCING JUDICIAL EXPERTISE ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND THE MEDIA IN SEE - JUFREX
Purpose	<p>Reforms aimed at further democratising societies in SEE include the area of freedom of expression and the media. There is a need to continuously support progress in the field of freedom of expression and freedom of the media, to train and educate not only media actors, but also societies as a whole. Promotion and full exercise of freedom of expression, freedom of the media, professional and ethical standards, public media services, independence of media and regulatory authorities remain to be ensured.</p> <p>This regional project focuses on the promotion of freedom of expression and freedom of the media in line with CoE standards through the support to judiciary in South East Europe. This main component is complemented by actions related to the support to media regulatory authorities and the training of media actors. These interconnected segments are of significant importance for freedom of expression and exercise of human rights, in line with European standards. Support in these areas will be synchronised and activities will contribute to a better understanding between all relevant stakeholders.</p>

	<p>The specific objectives of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to enhance the application of the ECHR and the ECtHR case-law in the field of freedom of expression in the daily work of the judiciary through the interpretation and implementation of the legislation in line with European standards; • to strengthen the capacity of training centres, judges' and prosecutors' academies and bar associations to train legal professionals on the ECHR, the case-law of the ECtHR and other European standards on freedom of expression; • to increase the awareness and capacity of judges, public prosecutors and lawyers dealing with freedom of expression issues on CoE standards and the case-law of the ECtHR; • to enhance the independence and effectiveness of the bodies responsible for broadcasting regulation, in line with European standards; • to promote rights and responsibilities of journalists and develop professionalism, responsibility and respect of ethical rules among journalists based on the ECtHR case-law and other CoE legal instruments. <p><i>This project is complementary to the project Strengthening of Internet Governance Ethics as a Tool for Increasing the Protection of Human Rights (4.1) and Supporting Freedom of Expression through Professional and Ethical Media (4.2).</i></p>
Main partners	Judges, prosecutors, lawyers, media regulatory authorities, public media services, journalists and other media actors
Duration	20/04/2016 - 19/04/2019
Project area	Kosovo*, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Funding	EU/CoE Joint Programme € 3 100 000 total, approx. € 500 000 each
Relevant MAE	DGI

V. DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION

PROPOSED PROJECTS

Activity	5.1. FOSTERING RAPPROCHEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY – FRED
Purpose	<p>While some progress has been made in the educational reform process, as evidenced by the Evaluation report of the Education strategy plan 2011-2016, several factors continue to contribute to tensions between communities, including lack of contact with peers from other communities, reinforcement of prejudice through curricula and textbooks, and a lack of understanding and inclusiveness with other groups. Linguistic discrimination and hate speech are on the rise as is radicalisation, though a European Commission report of 2015 commended Kosovo* for having "stepped up its efforts in the fight against terrorism".</p> <p>The CoE is promoting a Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture and awareness of human rights through education, in particular through the CoE Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (2010) and the CoE Committee of Ministers Action Plan "The fight against violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism" in which education is included as a preventative measure. A democratic climate must be provided in the schools for which teaching and non-teaching staff, parents and community leaders are responsible. Complementing this measure is the "No Hate Speech Movement". This project will aim to foster rapprochement from several different angles, combining grassroots, policy and political actions based on CoE standards.</p>

	<p>The project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • build capacity through school-based projects; • advance awareness through face-to-face and on-line events including introducing the No Hate Speech Movement; • develop policy recommendations and publications. <p><i>This project is complementary to the projects Strengthen Integrity and Combat Corruption in Higher Education (3.4.) and Fostering a Democratic School Culture and Diversity in Schools (5.2.)</i></p>
Main partners	MEST, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport, teacher training institutes
Duration	24 months
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 900 000
Relevant MAE	DGII

ONGOING PROJECTS

Activity	5.2. FOSTERING A DEMOCRATIC SCHOOL CULTURE AND DIVERSITY IN SCHOOLS
Purpose	<p>The CoE standards, including those addressing areas of minority rights and education, are part of the applicable legal framework and are strategic priorities.</p> <p>The CoE can draw upon its extensive experience of co-operation in the region and throughout Europe supporting education systems to harmonise practice with European standards.</p> <p>This project builds upon CoE's longstanding experience with Education, including a joint project with the World Bank to develop education and higher education legislation and a university statute (2000) and a joint programme with the EU on "Interculturalism and the Bologna Process" (2008-2011). Other related projects include EU/CoE JP Access to Education and Intercultural Understanding for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians and Returnees (2012-2015), and Regional EU/CoE JP Inclusive Education (2011-2015), which provided a strong base from which to develop the current project.</p> <p>The focus of this project is to foster democratic school culture and diversity in schools. This is reached by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhancing knowledge and awareness on inclusive education and a democratic culture in schools; • supporting vulnerable or marginalised children in schools and enhancing school capacities to remove prejudice and discriminatory approaches. <p><i>This project is complementary to the projects, FOSTERING RAPPROCHEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION FOR DEMOCRACY – FRED (5.1) and Strengthen Integrity and Combat Corruption in the Higher Education (3.4).</i></p>
Main partners	MEST, education policy and research institutes, teacher training organisations, selected pilot schools, local communities, media, civil society, experts and academics
Duration	01/10/2016 – 30/11/2018
Funding	€ 350 000, funded by the EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey
Relevant MAE	DGII

Activity	5.3. NETWORK OF THE SCHOOLS OF POLITICAL STUDIES: PRISTINA INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL STUDIES
Purpose	<p>The Schools of Political Studies promote democratic values, democratic processes and active participation in public life through training and confidence-building measures for future generations of political, economic, social and cultural leaders in places in transition.</p> <p>The Pristina Institute of Political Studies, which actively participates in the Schools' Network, brings together young leaders from different political parties, the administration and sectors of civil society, the mass media and the business world. It supports the capacity-building of young political and civic leaders capable to manage democratisation processes by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing and consolidating an advanced training programme for political and civic leaders; • using its alumni as drivers for change in democratic processes.
Main partners	Network of Schools of Political Studies
Duration	01/01/2014 – 31/12/2016
Funding	Estimated funding required: € 25 000
Relevant MAE	Directorate of Policy Planning (DPP)

APPENDIX

Table 1 ON-GOING PROJECTS

Type of project	Funding secured			Total funds secured
	Ordinary Budget	EU/CoE Joint Programmes	Voluntary Contributions	
Kosovo* specific	€ 330 000	€ 4 445 000	€ 1 517 072	€ 6 292 072
Regional/Multilateral	€ 0	€ 1 800 000	€ 0	€ 1 800 000
TOTAL	€ 330 000	€ 6 245 000	€ 1 517 072	€ 8 092 072

Table 2 PROPOSED AND ON-GOING PROJECTS

Pillars	Total funds required (Proposed Projects)	Total funds secured (On-going projects)	Total
1. PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS, ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND DIVERSITY	€ 3 650 000	€ 2 080 000	€ 5 730 000
2. ENSURING JUSTICE	€ 1 100 000	€ 1 787 072	€ 2 887 072
3. FIGHTING CORRUPTION, ECONOMIC CRIME AND ORGANISED CRIME	€ 620 000	€ 3 375 000	€ 3 995 000
4. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA	€ 1 200 000	€ 500 000	€ 1 700 000
5. DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND PARTICIPATION	€ 925 000	€ 350 000	€ 1 275 000
TOTAL	€ 7 495 000	€ 8 092 072	€ 15 587 072